

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, the Specification has been amended. Claims 1-11 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendments to the Specification overcome the rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,690,010 to Matsumoto et al.

Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites that the input gear is spaced from a center of rotation of the speed reducer. According to the Examiner, the center of rotation in Matsumoto et al. is the axis of the eccentric input shaft 30. Applicants respectfully disagree.

The center of rotation would be a point around which other elements of the speed reducer rotate. However, the speed reducers 20 and 70 do not rotate around the input shaft 30. In fact, the input shaft 30 rotates around other elements of the speed reducers 20,70. For example, the input shaft 30 rotates around the input gear 22. Thus, it is the input gear 22 that is the center of rotation of the speed reducers 20 and 70. This input gear 22 is not spaced from the center of rotation, but is the center of rotation. Thus Matsumoto et al. does not disclose this claimed feature.

Independent claims 4 and 5 recite similar features.

Claim 1 further recites "the shaft of the motor shifted with respect to the center rotation

of the speed reducer.” Contrary to the Examiner’s assertion, in Matsumoto, the motor is arranged at the center of rotation of the speed reducer. Specifically, the Examiner states that the crankshaft 30 of Matsumoto is an axis of rotation, along with the shaft 7. However, only shaft 7 is a center of rotation. Thus, the center of rotation of the speed reducer 70 is not the crankshaft 30.

Dependent claim 10 recites that the crank shaft does not revolve around the input gear. As discussed above, the crank shaft 30 of Matsumoto is not the center of rotation. Instead, this element is also a rotating element, which rotates about input gear 22 of Matsumoto.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 3, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumoto et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,606,235 to Mauletti.

It is respectfully submitted that Mauletti does not overcome the deficiencies of Matsumoto et al., and is not relied upon by the Examiner for this purpose.

NEW CLAIM

New claim 12 recites “wherein the second member supports the crankshaft.” Thus, the motor is attached to the member which supports the crankshaft. It is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not teach or suggest this feature.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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